

Courier

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Let's talk trash

Who would have thought that their trash would return in the form of electricity? That's exactly what happens when trash is processed at the county's I-95 Energy/Resource Recovery Facility (ERRF). According to **Amarjit Riat**,

DPWES manager of the 500-acre I-95 landfill, "Trash can be electrifying."

Usually, there is not a second thought given when trash is placed at curbside for pickup by the huge trucks we see daily.

"The trucks, both commercially and

county-owned, take their loads to county processing locations, including the I-95 facility or the I-66 transfer station. However, recycled



I-95 Energy/Resource Recovery Facility in Lorton.

See Landfill, page 2

We salute our fallen officers

Detective **Vicky O. Armel** and Master Police Officer **Michael E. Garbarino**, members of the Fairfax County Police Department, died as a result of a May 8 ambush on the Sully District Police Station. We salute you.

For information on how to make donations to the Armel and Garbarino families, or to send a message of condolence, go online to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/>.



Vicky O. Armel



MPO Michael E. Garbarino

Landfill, from page 1

materials go to other processing facilities in the region" said **Jeff Smithberger**, director



Ramon Beltran
weighs in a truck.

of the Division of Solid Waste Collection and Recycling. More than 3,000 tons of solid waste are received week-days from Fairfax and Prince William counties at the I-95 facility. The trash which is received at the I-66 transfer station is transported by trucks to the I-95 ERRF

located at Lorton.

The I-95 ERRF is owned and operated by Covanta Fairfax, Inc under the management oversight of DPWES' Division of Solid Waste



Amarjit Riat
manager

Disposal and Resource Recovery. The county operates the landfill and other recycling operations. "The Energy/Resource Recovery Facility came online in 1990 when we ceased burying solid waste in landfills," said Riat.

A steady stream of trucks come to the I-95 ERRF where their content is weighed and dumped in a huge pit where it is picked up by a massive "claw" and started on its way through the waste-to-energy process. All companies, including the county, are charged \$44.95 per ton for disposed material. "Processing the trash is a fairly complicated process because we ensure that all parts of the process meet or exceed stringent federal and commonwealth environmental standards," said Riat, who pointed out the almost total lack of noise and odor

Jesse Funderburk
and **Stephen Nester**
take care of the ash.



around the facility.

Following the incineration process, approximately 800 tons of ash is cooled

and transported to the landfill area each day, seven days a week. By converting solid waste to ash and subsequently reducing the volume by almost 90 percent, the existing space for landfill has been extended by many years. "We won't max out the landfill area for several decades now," said Riat. Experience counts, too, as **Earl Delauder**, superintendent, has worked with the landfill for more than 25 years.



Earl Delauder

But solids are only part of the process. The emissions from the incineration process go through several purification stages until they are safe and odorless when released into the air. The I-95 ERRF

has been updated many times to maintain the latest pollution prevention devices.

So how does trash become electricity? The ERRF uses the solid waste as fuel in a mass-burn combustion system where temperatures exceeding 1,800 degrees Fahrenheit turn steam turbines that generate approximately 80 megawatts of electricity continuously. Almost \$20 million of energy is sold to Dominion Virginia Power annually. That's enough electricity to meet the needs of 75,000 homes. The energy revenues offset the disposal costs charged at the facility. Only a very small portion of the agency's budget comes from the General Fund to support community-based programs, such as the household hazardous waste program, ordinance enforcement and recycling programs.

The ERRF is a "machine" that requires periodic maintenance, usually in the spring and fall. During these periods, transfer station trucks haul trash to other landfills in Prince William and King George counties for disposal. "Fairfax County has a well-planned and well-documented integrated waste disposal system," said Smithberger.

"We're proud of our facility and the people that operate it," said Riat. "We're glad we can contribute to the wellbeing of county residents and make a positive impact on our environment." ■

Employee focus

County employees provide Hurricane Katrina support

"The devastation from Hurricane Katrina is far from over," said **Everludis Lopez**, who, with four other members of Fairfax County government and schools, joined a team that went to the New Orleans area recently to help with rebuilding projects. In addition to Lopez, who is a member of the Head Start program in the Office for Children (OFC); **Barbara Black**, Fairfax County Public Schools; **Richard Yuras**, Fire & Rescue Department; **Janis Rieley**, OFC Childcare Assistance and Referral; **Vivek Lopez**, OFC, School Age Child Care; and were part of a 25-person team sponsored by the United Methodist Committee on Relief and the United Methodist Church of Herndon.

The team was based in a Presbyterian church in Metairie, La., and went into the community during the week to handle "all sorts of repair and clean-up tasks." According to Yuras, the team members were self-sufficient, bringing their own food, clothing, tools and transportation. "We did receive great support from the area churches and people," he laughed, as he described the complexity of just scheduling showers for the team members. Lopez added that all muddy clothes that were accumulated at the end of the day "magically appeared the next day all clean and folded. It was great support."

The team worked on several area projects. "We worked on eight houses," said Yuras, "doing everything from gutter repair, roof replacement and tree removal to completely gutting the inside of a damaged house. I still can't believe the state of destruction that exists almost eight months after the storm."

In addition to helping with repairs and renovations, there was another benefit to the to members' participation. "People wanted to talk. They needed to share their experiences," said Rieley. "There is far more than just physical damage that the people have sustained. There is social and emotional damage as families and communities have been completely

uprooted. Rieley recounted several stories that related at a professional level. "I met a local government employee who had been laid off from his alcohol abuse counseling job. And we talked with school teachers who now are teaching in temporary facilities with few, if any, books and supplies. The impact on the people is incredible," she said. She also stressed the positive and grateful attitude of those who they met and helped.

Would they do this again? "You bet," said Lopez, who indicated the group will go down again. "This is just one way we can reach out to help citizens in need," she smiled. "There are so many ways each of us can help those in need, both in our community and far away. We just have to look and then react." ■



Everludis Lopez



Barbara Black



Richard Yuras



Janis Rieley



Vivek Lopez



Volunteers cut a tree downed more than six months ago by Hurricane Katrina.

Final touches being set for area's largest festival

With just a few weeks to go before opening day, the 25th annual celebration of the *Celebrate Fairfax!* festival is well on its way! More than 70,000 are expected to attend the festival during its three-day run, June 9-11, at the Fairfax County Government Center. The nonstop programming includes more than 80



concerts and performances, an expanded United Bank Crafts Market, nightly

SAIC Fireworks, the FXVA Laser Spectacular, free activities in ExxonMobil Children's Avenue, interactive activities in SciTech Center, hundreds of business and non-profit exhibits/expos with fantastic prizes and giveaways, and four national headliners on the Bud Light

Main Stage that include Collective Soul, Sister Hazel, Sugar Ray, and .38 Special!

From now until June 8, you can purchase tickets or ticket packages by visiting the *Celebrate Fairfax!* Web site at www.celebratefairfax.com and click on the "Tickets" link located on the right side of the page.

Tickets also may be purchased at any Northern Virginia Multiplex Cinemas, all Fairfax County Federal Credit Union branches and at Wegmans, located near the Government Center.

Interested in being a valuable part of the county's signature event and attending the festival for free? Sign-up to volunteer on the Festival Web site or contact **Emily Swift** at emilyswift@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-324-5457. For more information about the programs and entertainment at *Celebrate Fairfax!*, please visit www.celebratefairfax.com. We look forward to seeing you there!

Celebrate Fairfax! – Summer Starts Here! ■

Parking plans before and during *Celebrate Fairfax!*

Once again the Government Center Complex will host *Celebrate Fairfax!* on June 9-11, an event bringing together and celebrating Fairfax County, its employees, its communities and its assets. Your involvement and patience during this time is greatly appreciated.

Employees can expect limited parking availability during the week of June 5 as the festival sets up. Visitor parking will be maintained in front of the Government Center and employees are requested to respect these areas and leave them available for visitors coming to conduct business in the Government Center.

Employees are encouraged to carpool that week to relieve the anticipated tight parking situation. If you have an assigned space in the garage and will be on leave, please allow a co-worker to use it. Monday through Thurs-

day, there will be limited parking available in some front lots except where coned off or tents are set up. On Friday, the only available parking in the front lots at the Government Center will be reserved for visitors. Employees may use the garages at the Pennino or Herrity buildings or the alternate parking lot on the northwest corner of Monument Drive and Government Center Parkway, across from Fairfax Corner.

Shuttle Bus Service

Shuttle Bus Service, courtesy of Fastran and the Department of Community and Recreation Services, will be offered between Pennino and Herrity buildings and the alternate parking lot on Monument Drive on Thursday, June 8, and Friday, June 9, between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

See Parking, page 5

Celebrate Fairfax!
**Summer
starts
here!**
www.celebratefairfax.com

Parking, from page 4

On Thursday continuous service (about every 15-20 minutes) will be provided during the hours listed above. The shuttle bus will stop at the front entrances of the Herrity and Pennino buildings, at the bus stop near the front entrance of the Government Center, and at the parking lot on the northwest corner of Monument Drive and Government Center Parkway across from Fairfax Corner. (NOTE: County employees should not park in the other customer lots in Fairfax Corner. The shuttle bus will stop for passengers only at the approved parking lot.)

On Friday, continuous service (about every 15-20 minutes) will only stop at the front entrance of the Herrity Building (the front of the Pennino will be blocked off for Police Command Operations), at the loading dock of the Government Center and at the lot across from Fairfax Corner.

Road and Garage Closures

At 6 p.m. Thursday, the two center entrance roads to the Government Center (across from Post Forest Road at the stoplight) will be closed to vehicles until Monday morning.

At 9 a.m. Friday, the north entrance road (entrance closest to Monument Drive) will be closed until Monday morning.

On Friday the lot in front of the Pennino Building will be closed except for Child Care Center drop off and pick up.

At 4:30 p.m. Friday, employee access to the Government Center P1 and P2 parking garages will end until 6 a.m. Monday. Friday morning P1 and P2 will operate as normal. Employees' cars can remain in their parking space until the end of their regular day. However, reserved spaces of those employees

who leave and return after 2 p.m. on P1 or P2 are not guaranteed as pre-approved exhibitors will be moving their cars into the garages.

When leaving P1 and P2 on Friday, all employees must leave the garages through the south entrance road (near the fuel island) and follow the directions of the officers on Government Center Parkway.

During the festival, Government Center Parkway will be closed to through traffic from the stoplight at Post Forest Drive to the intersection of the north entrance road.

Security

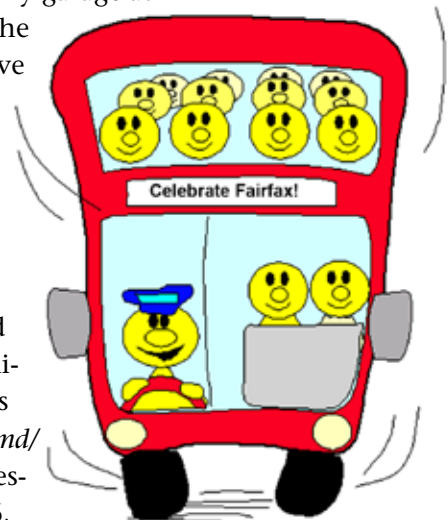
For security reasons, all offices in the Government Center Complex are closed to employee and visitor access from 5 p.m. Friday, June 9, to 6 a.m. Monday, June 12, except for the offices of the Electoral Board and General Registrar. Employees who must work must submit an Employee Security Access Request Form (<http://infoweb/fmd/celebratefairfax>) through their agency's security coordinator to the Building Services Division in FMD by May 31.

Please contact the security office if you plan to leave a personal vehicle in any garage at the Government Center over the festival weekend. You must have a pass on the dash with your name on it so that the vehicle can be easily identified and won't be towed.

The Government Center will be open for absentee voting.

More information, forms and maps are available on the Facilities Management Department's Infoweb site at <http://infoweb/fmd/celebratefairfax>. If you have questions, please call 703-324-2886,

**information, forms
and maps are
available on the
Facilities
Management
Department's
Infoweb site at
[http://infoweb/fmd/
celebratefairfax](http://infoweb/fmd/celebratefairfax)**

**HOLIDAY REMINDER**

We all look forward to Memorial Day, the first holiday of the summer! Before you leave for the three-day break, remember to let everyone know that you will be away from the office. It's easy to do using your voice mail message and the "Out of Office" tool on your e-mail. In fact, it is the county policy that if you will be away from the office for more than one day for any reason, you must indicate this on your voice mail and e-mail. Both voice mail and e-mail messages also should provide an alternate contact for assistance during normal business hours. This is just one of the standards for using your county voice mail and e-mail. To find out all of the county policies and procedures and for sample out-of-office messages, visit the Infoweb at infoweb/cex/commstrategy/standards/complying.htm. Still have questions? Send an e-mail to commstrategy@fairfaxcounty.gov or call the Office of Public Affairs at 703-324-3187, TTY 711. ■

Focus on Benefits



**HR Central
has benefit
information.
703-324-4900,
TTY 703-222-7314**

Keeping your group term life insurance beneficiary designations current

Do you know who your beneficiary is for your county group term life insurance coverage? If you're a new employee who has recently enrolled in county benefits, you probably do. If you're a longer-term county employee, however, it has probably been some time since you've made or reviewed your beneficiary designation for this very important program.

Many employees have had changes in their marital and/or family status during their employment with the county and have either added family members to, or removed them from, their health, dental and life insurance coverage. However, since the county does not automatically make changes to your beneficiary designations when you add family members to or remove them from health, dental and life insurance coverage, these important designations may not be as current as you might think.

The selection of a beneficiary is just as important as keeping your designation current since it will determine who will receive the benefit and when the benefit will be paid. If you elect

an individual(s) as your beneficiary(ies), your benefit will be paid to that person(s) shortly after the county receives required documentation. However, if you designate your estate as your beneficiary, the benefits will not be paid until the estate is settled. If you have no ben-

Many employees have had changes in their marital and/or family status during their employment with the county.

eficiary designation on record, the courts will determine who will receive the

death benefit. This can be a lengthy process and the courts may not pay benefits to the person(s) you intended.

Checking your current group term life insurance beneficiary is easy. You can review your 2005 Annual Statement of Earnings and Benefit Report distributed in February 2006 or check the PRISM system. To check your beneficiary designation on the PRISM system:

- ♦ Log onto Online Time.
- ♦ Select transaction 017 (Benefits Inquiry) and enter your Social Security Number.
- ♦ Go to the middle of the next screen and look for "Beneficiary Name."

If the life insurance beneficiary shown in the PRISM system is not current, you can change your beneficiary by following these steps:

- ♦ On the county Infoweb, go to the Benefits page and select "Forms" from the drop down box at the top of the page.
- ♦ Select "Life Insurance" from the list on this page.
- ♦ Select "Beneficiary Change Form" from the list of life insurance forms.
- ♦ Complete the form and send the completed form to the Benefits Division, DHR.

Remember that your beneficiary designation(s) for other assets and benefit programs, such as deferred compensation, retirement benefits and bank accounts, may be different than your designated life insurance beneficiary. You should also verify your beneficiary designations for these programs and other assets. ■

CareFirst Benefit Plan Booklet Corrections

The Jan. 1, 2006, edition of the Fairfax County Government Benefit Plan booklet from CareFirst describing the FairChoice+BlueChoice (POS) and BluePreferred PPO plans contains two items that need to be corrected. In order to comply with our contract with CareFirst:

- ♦ Pages 55, 56 and 57 should state that the mail order drug plan is limited to a 90-day supply instead of the 102-day supply that is shown in the booklet.
- ♦ On page 69 the following exclusion should have been included: "Services which are not, in the judgement of CareFirst, medically necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of an illness, except as otherwise specified."

If you have any questions on these changes, you can contact the county's onsite CareFirst representative, **Betsi Fuhrman**, at 324-3474, TTY 711. ■

EAC election results

Monica Meeks, Office of the Sheriff, is a winner of the Employees Advisory Council (EAC) election, which ended May 11, along with incumbents **Steve Baker**, Park Authority; and **Anita Baker**, Administration for Human Services. **Meeks** is the new representative for Group 9, which represents the Sheriff's Office uniformed employees, Circuit Court and Records, General District Court, Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, and the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney. She succeeds **Sureyya Kanli**.

Steve Baker returns to represent Group 4 (Park Authority, Community and Recreation Services, McLean Community Center, Reston Commu-

nity Center, Purchasing and Supply Management, and Vehicle Services).

Anita Baker will continue on as the representative for Group 5 (Administration for Human Services, Cable Communications and Consumer Protection, Civil Service Commission, Housing & Community Development, Human Rights Commission, Planning and Zoning, Planning Commission, Systems Management for Human Services, and Transportation).

In Groups 2, 10, and 11, also up for reelection, no elections were needed since each only had one nominee.

In Group 2 (Fire and Rescue), **Sarah Goldman** will continue as the representative. In Group 10 (Community Services Board, including Alcohol &

Drug Services, Mental Health Services, Mental Retardation Services, and Infant-Toddler Connection Services), **Stella Norman** returns as the representative, while in Group 11 (non-uniform civilian employees of the Police, Fire and Rescue, Public Safety Communications and the Office of the Sheriff), incumbent **Paula Ferrer** will return. The representatives for Groups 4, 10 and 11 will serve two-year terms beginning June 1, 2006 through May 31, 2008.

The representatives for Groups 2, 5, and 9 begin serving three-year terms beginning June 1, 2006, through May 31, 2009, as part of the transition to three-year terms for all EAC representatives. ■

NIMS training required for emergency responders

NIMS. We're all becoming more aware of this acronym through information in memos, NewsLink, Courier and training classes. NIMS stands for National Incident Management System, a nationwide approach developed by the Department of Homeland Security to manage incidents and emergency-related situations.

NIMS was developed with the realization that most incident management occurs at a local level, and often requires coordination and cooperation of other jurisdictions, states and federal level. This system will help ensure that a consistent approach is used at all levels in emergency prevention, preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation. Fairfax County is a participant in NIMS.

In order for NIMS to be effectively used and to qualify for

federal funds, county employees who are identified with an emergency role in the county or agency emergency plan must be properly

Management at 703-324-2383, TTY 711.

Remember, effective response to emergency situations depends on

May 31-June 2 in the AEOC at the Government Center, Suite 151C
June 5-7 in the AEOC at the Government Center, Suite 151C
June 7-9 at the Water Authority, 8560 Arlington Boulevard, Fairfax
June 19-21 at the Water Authority, 8560 Arlington Boulevard, Fairfax
June 21-23 at the Water Authority, 8560 Arlington Boulevard, Fairfax
June 26-28 in the AEOC at the Government Center, Suite 151C
June 28-30 in the AEOC at the Government Center, Suite 151C

trained. The required two-and-a-half day classes have been extended into June. The schedule can be found at <http://infoweb/oem/training.htm>. If you are designated to participate in the response to an emergency, then you must complete a training class. If you are unsure about your role in an emergency situation, then ask your agency director or contact **Mark Rohr** in the Office of Emergency

your knowledge and training. NIMS provides the framework; you provide the response. ■

Thanks, everyone, for a great time as editor of Courier.

Maybe I'll see you on the bike path.

John Nash,
former editor of Courier

Working with Favorite and Search folders in Outlook 2003

The power of creating and organizing specialized views of your mailboxes and folders as well as special search views in Outlook 2003 is right at your fingertips. Here's how.

Working with Favorite Folders

When you select the "Mail" view (opened letter icon) located on the bottom of the Navigation Pane, Outlook 2003 displays two sections titled "Favorite Folders" located at the top left above "All Mail Folders." The "Favorites Folders" section lets you quickly review essential mail folders without reorganizing the regular folder tree.

To add a folder to the "Favorite Folders" section, right-click on the desired folder located in the "All Mail Folders" and select "Add to

Favorite Folders" from the displayed menu.

To remove a folder from the "Favorite Folders" section, right-click the folder and select "Remove from Favorite Folders."

To move a folder in the "Favorite Folders" up or down in the list, right-click the folder and choose either "Move up in list" or "Move down in list" from the displayed menu. Fairly simple.

Working with Search Folders

"Search Folders," located in the "All Mail Folders" section, provides special views of your essential mailboxes or folders. Right-click on "Search Folders" and select "New Search Folder" from the displayed menu. From the "New Search

Tech Tip # 104

Department of Information Technology
Technology Infrastructure Division
Technical Support Center
Fairfax County Government Center
12000 Government Center parkway
Fairfax, VA 22035
Tel: 703-222-3535, option 1
Fax: 703-222-3396
TTY: 711

Folder" window, select from the desired options listed and follow the displayed steps. Upon completion, follow the preceding steps to add it to your "Favorite Folders."

If you have any questions about these or any other steps in the new Outlook 2003, contact the DIT Help Desk at 703-222-3535, TTY 711. ■

Fairfax karate class members compete in world championship

Three members of the Fairfax Shotokan Karate class that meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday in the Health and Wellness Center will be heading to Sidney, Australia, on Aug. 17 to participate in the 10th World Karate-do Championships.

"This is quite an honor for Fairfax to have three members of the four-person national junior team," said **Mohammad Gharavi**, a member of DPWES Capital Improvements Division and class instructor. The three members, **Pedram Rastegar**, **Vincent Miller** and **Ashley Miller**, will be accompanied to the competition by **Nelia Miller** and coach **Nhat Nguyen**, a member of the Mental Health Services, Community Services Board.



Clockwise: Nhat Nguyen, Vincent Miller, Pedram Rastegar, Ashley Miller and Nelia Miller

As the expense for the trip is supported solely by the individuals, any financial or frequent flyer mile donations will be appreciated. For more information, contact Nguyen at 703-481-4205, TTY 711, or e-mail nhat.nguyen@fairfaxcounty.gov. ■

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